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(74) Agent: **ASTRAZENECA**; Global Intellectual Property,
S-151 85 Sodertalje (SE).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except MG, US): **AS-
TRAZENECA AB** [SE/SE]; S-151 85 Sodertalje (SE).

(71) Applicant (for MG only): **ASTRAZENECA UK LIM-
ITED** [GB/GB]; 15 Stanhope Gate, London, Greater Lon-
don W1K 1LN (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **FINLAY, Maurice**,
Raymond, Verschoye [GB/GB]; AstraZeneca R & D
Alderley, Alderley Park, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10
4TG (GB). **WATERSON, David** [GB/GB]; AstraZeneca
R & D Alderley, Alderley Park, Macclesfield, Cheshire
SK10 4TG (GB).

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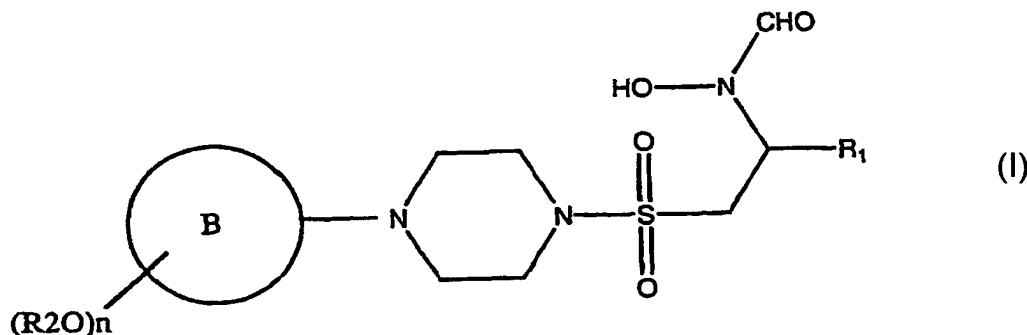
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(54) Title: **N-[4-SUBSTITUTED PIPERAZINE-1-SULFONYLMETHYL]ALKYL]-N-HYDROXYFOMAMIDE COM-
POUNDS AS METALLOPROTEINASE INHIBITORS**



(57) Abstract: The invention provides compounds of formula (I): or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, wherein ring B represents a monocyclic aryl ring having six ring atoms or a monocyclic heteroaryl ring having up to six ring atoms and containing one or more ring heteroatoms wherein each said heteroatom is nitrogen; R2 represents a group selected from C1-6 alkyl or aryl, which said group is substituted by one or more fluorine groups; n is 1, 2 or 3; and R1 represents an optionally substituted group selected from C1-6 alkyl, C5-7 cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-aryl, C1-6alkyl-heteroaryl, C1-6 alkyl-cycloalkyl or C1-6alkyl-heterocycloalkyl. Processes for their preparation; pharmaceutical compositions containing them; and their use in the treatment of a disease condition mediated by one or more metalloproteinase enzymes.

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